

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed September 16, 2003, claims 7-8, 10, 15, 17-18, 21-23, & 26 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled or newly added. Therefore, claims 1-26 are pending. Support for the instant amendments is provided throughout the as-filed Specification. Thus, no new matter has been added. In view of the foregoing amendments and following comments, allowance of all the claims pending in the application is respectfully requested.

A. **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (I.D.S.)**

An I.D.S. was filed by Applicant on May 11, 2000 together with a "Petition to Make Special." To date, however, Applicant has not received a copy of the PTO-1449 form signed by the Examiner indicating that this I.D.S. was considered. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner provide a signed copy of the PTO-1449 form for this submission. For the convenience of the Examiner, a copy of the May 11, 2000 I.D.S. and PTO-1449 form is provided in **APPENDIX A**.

B. **SPECIFICATION**

The Specification has been amended to update related application information.

C. **DRAWINGS**

Applicant is submitting herewith a set of formal drawings.

D. **NON-STATUTORY DOUBLE PATENTING REJECTION**

Claims 1-26 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 2-11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,510,419 to Gatto. *See* Office Action, pg. 3, ¶4.

Applicant disagrees. However, solely in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicant is submitting herewith a terminal disclaimer. As such, withdrawal of this rejection is earnestly sought.

CONCLUSION

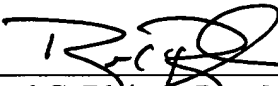
Having addressed each of the foregoing rejections, it is respectfully submitted that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the application is in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Respectfully submitted,

MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS, GLOVSKY, AND POPEO, PC

By:


Bradford C. Blaise – Reg. No. 47,429
for: James G. Gatto – Reg. No. 32,694

Date: **September 29, 2003**

MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS, GLOVSKY, AND POPEO, PC
12010 Sunset Hills Road
Suite 900
Reston, Virginia 20190
(703) 464-4800 (Telephone)
(703) 464-4895 (Facsimile)

RES 101709v1